

**TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE**



FISCAL NOTE

HB 1525 - SB 1612

March 25, 2011

SUMMARY OF BILL: Defines “approved smoke detector,” and requires that photo-electric smoke detectors be installed in newly constructed or renovated foster care dwellings or used when a smoke detector is being replaced. Requires smoke detectors to be installed in newly constructed or renovated one- or two-family rental units. Prohibits licensure of a new nursing home, assisted-care living facility, or home for the aged unless the facility is fully sprinklered and provides a photo-electric smoke detector in each patient’s room. Requires installation of smoke detectors in existing apartment buildings or hotels that are remodeled or upgraded so long as its installation does not require modification to an existing central fire alarm system. Prohibits the sale of individual non-photo-electric smoke detectors in Tennessee.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

NOT SIGNIFICANT

Assumptions:

- According to the Department of Commerce and Insurance, Department personnel currently inspect smoke detecting devices in buildings. Therefore, the impact to the Department for revising investigative procedures will be not significant.
- Foster care dwellings exchanging their smoke detectors during replacement cycles will not result in a significant increase in contract rates. Any cost can be accommodated within the existing resources of the Department of Children’s Services.
- Any cost associated with nursing homes exchanging their smoke detectors will not result in a significant increase to reimbursement rates and can be accommodated within the existing resources of the Bureau of TennCare.
- According to the Department of Health, the Board for Licensing Health Care Facilities will hold a rulemaking hearing. Based upon information provided by the Department, the rulemaking will be held during a regularly scheduled Board meeting and can be accomplished without an increase in appropriations or a reduced reversion.
- According to the Department of Human Services, renovations currently being performed at the Tennessee Rehabilitation Center in Smyrna meet the requirements of the bill. Therefore, the impact to state government will be not significant.
- Pursuant to Tenn. Code Ann. § 68-11-216, the Board for Licensing Health Care Facilities is required to be self-supporting over a two-year period. The Board had closing balances of \$110,798 in FY08-09, and \$392,654 in FY09-10.

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CERTIFICATION:

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "James W. White". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "James" written in a smaller, more compact script than the last name "White".

James W. White, Executive Director

/sbh